

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
WINSTON-SALEM DIVISION**

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, STATE OF
COLORADO, STATE OF ILLINOIS,
STATE OF INDIANA, STATE OF IOWA,
STATE OF MINNESOTA, STATE OF
NEBRASKA, STATE OF OREGON,
STATE OF TENNESSEE, STATE OF
TEXAS, STATE OF WASHINGTON, and
STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Plaintiffs,

v.

SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION AG,
SYNGENTA CORPORATION,
SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION, LLC,
and CORTEVA, INC.,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:22-cv-00828-TDS-JEP

**PLAINTIFF FEDERAL TRADE
COMMISSION'S SUGGESTION
OF SUBSEQUENTLY DECIDED
AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to Local Rule 7.3(i), Plaintiff Federal Trade Commission hereby submits a suggestion of subsequently decided authority relevant to Defendants' Motions to Dismiss the Amended Complaint (Docs. 94, 99) and Plaintiffs' Response in Opposition thereto (Doc. 110).

The subsequently decided authority is *K & R Contractors, LLC v. Keene*, No. 20-2021, 2023 WL 7312503, at *9-*10 (4th Cir. Nov. 7, 2023) (holding that actions of a lawfully appointed executive officer are legitimate and enforceable regardless of whether removal protections are constitutional, except where there is an affirmative showing of harm resulting from the removal protections). It is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Dated: November 20, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ James H. Weingarten

JAMES H. WEINGARTEN (DC Bar No. 985070)

Deputy Chief Trial Counsel

Federal Trade Commission

Bureau of Competition

600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20580

Telephone: (202) 326-3570

Email: jweingarten@ftc.gov

JOSEPH R. BAKER

WESLEY G. CARSON

ELIZABETH A. GILLEN

PHILIP J. KEHL

MICHAEL J. TURNER

Attorneys for Plaintiff Federal Trade Commission